



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health – Women’s & Children’s Health Section
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Michael F. Easley, Governor

Camren Hooker Odom, Secretary

October 26, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Health Departments
Private Providers

FROM: Beth Rowe-West, BSN, RN
Head, Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: Changes Affecting Polio Vaccine Required Schedule

The purpose of this memo is to announce a change in the administrative rules relating to the requirements for polio vaccination. Effective October 1, 2005, the administrative rule, 10A NCAC 41A.0401, has been changed, eliminating the requirement for the fourth dose of polio vaccine to be given on or after the fourth birthday. In addition, if the third dose of polio vaccine is given on or after the fourth birthday, a fourth dose is not required. The current (new) requirement reads:

Poliomyelitis vaccine--four doses: two doses of trivalent type by age five months; a third dose trivalent type before age 19 months, and a booster dose of trivalent type before enrolling in school (K-1) for the first time.

Individuals that receive the third dose of poliomyelitis vaccine on or after the fourth birthday shall not be required to receive a fourth dose.

Please note that the requirement for the booster dose of DTaP vaccine to be given on or after the fourth birthday has not changed.

Questions regarding the change in the polio requirement should be addressed to your Regional Immunization Consultant, or by calling the Immunization Branch Central Office, at 919-707-5550.

CC: SMT
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WCH Nursing Consultants

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